



# CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

## QUESTION UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE FILM

### Returns From Ghana

We are happy to report the return to this country of the Reverend Chester L. Marcus, who spent the past year traveling in Africa as a goodwill ambassador for the United Church of Christ. In addition to visiting intensively in the churches of Ghana, he traveled in eleven other West African countries.

Mr. Marcus had memorable experiences in the tension ridden Republic of the Congo and reports an interesting visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer in his jungle hospital at Lambarene, Gabon.

Having resumed his responsibilities as secretary for Racial and Cultural Relations for the Council for Christian Social Action, Mr. Marcus is now available to accept engagements in our churches as his schedule permits.



Cleveland Press Photo

According to reports in many communities across the nation, civic organizations and other groups are being urged to see and show a film entitled *OPERATION ABOLITION*. Produced from newsreel shots filmed for stations KRON and KPIX in San Francisco, subpoenaed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, edited with an opening statement by Chairman Francis E. Walter, with running commentary, and with statements by other members of the Committee, it was put together and distributed (at \$100 per print) by a private Washington firm—without credits or compensation to the original owners.

The film presents Congressman Walter and members of his Committee as instructing the viewers as to the magnitude and methods of the Communist conspiracy in the United States. This warning is documented by shots of hearings held by a sub-committee of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in San Francisco in May 1960 and demonstrations which took place variously inside and outside the City Hall and elsewhere in the city. The impression is given that there is a direct and deliberate relationship between the uncooperative witnesses (admitted or alleged Communist), a disciplined group of students who peacefully protested what they considered the Committee's past infringements of constitutional liberties, and other individuals who endeavored to witness the hearings but were unable to gain admittance.

While the sound track alleges that students attacked the police, the film does not show any violent action by the students but does show the police turning fire hoses on the demonstrators, pushing students, and pulling them down the City Hall steps. Those who protested the Committee's activities, whether in a peaceful or in a disorderly fashion, and by implication anyone else who opposes the Committee's activities, is labeled either a co-conspirator or a dupe.

There have been several impressive defenses of the film:

## Program Resources on "The High Cost of Health"

By F. Nelsen Schlegel

The theme of the March issue of SOCIAL ACTION magazine is "The High Cost of Health." Because of lack of space the section on program resources had to be omitted. Some of our readers asked that CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY carry this section, since interest in this theme is currently high.

Mr. Bugbee's article on the main topic in the March issue of SOCIAL ACTION might be studied along with a review of the book by Dr. Means which is discussed briefly in the book review section. This book and the Yahres article, *Making Medical Care Better*, in the Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 283 might be in your public library. They should have full treatment in a study session. How far will your group go in agreement with Dr. Means that group medicine and prepayment programs will meet health needs more economically? You may want to see an article in *Look* magazine for January 17, which tells of difficulties experienced by doctors who

belong to a New York City group health plan.

Mrs. Mathiasen's article indicates the trend of social welfare legislation in the Eighty-sixth Congress and highlights a subject of increasing concern to older people. A letter to your congressman will help you to be up to date with proposals for health legislation in the Eighty-seventh Congress. Upon request his office will obtain for you copies of the McNamara bill (S 65), and of the bill which will grow out of the proposal made by President Kennedy on February 17. There are other bills on this theme, but our guess is that these two will be the principal ones in this session of Congress.

Your congressman can also send you information regarding the provisions of the Kerr-Mills bill, part of the Social Security Amendments of 1960, which authorizes Federal government Old Age Assistance grants to the states to aid medical aid programs. Your county welfare office can tell you the status of this

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## Question Un-American Activities Committee Film

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"The Communist-Led Riots Against the House Committee on Un-American Activities . . . "House Report No. 2228, 1960.

"Communist Target—Youth" A Report by J. Edgar Hoover, 1960.

"Committee on Un-American Activities Annual Report for the Year 1960," House Report No. 2237, 1961.

These may be secured from the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C.

Responsible writers who have alleged serious distortions in the presentation and interpretation of what happened include:

Paul Jacobs, "A Movie with a Message" in *Reporter*, Nov. 24, 1960

Robert W. Moon, "Operation Abolition" in *Christian Century*, Jan. 4, 1961

Dan Wakefield, "'Un-Americanism' Plays the Colleges," in *Nation*, January 28, 1961

In addition, *Sounds of Protest*, a 12" L.P. record prepared by the students

from KPFA tapes to give their side of the story, may be obtained from the Bay Area Student Committee, 1732 Francisco Street, Berkeley, California. (\$2 each, 3 for \$5)

The General Board of the National Council of Churches, meeting in Syracuse, New York, February 22 and 23, adopted a statement in which it expressed its deep concern about problems raised in the conflicting reports about the film.

It pointed to the need for answers to a number of questions raised by and about the film and stated that "until objective and convincing answers to these questions are provided . . . , the General Board advises its constituent communions and their members *not to exhibit the film 'Operation Abolition' in churches unless a full and fair presentation of such facts as are available relevant to these questions is provided before hand.*"

The text of the National Council of Churches resolution is printed in full in this issue of *CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY*.

A booklet of relevant information is being issued by the National Council, entitled *Operation Abolition: Some Facts and Some Comments*.

Because of the widespread "drive" to get church and school groups as well as others to sponsor the film, the Council for Christian Social Action has prepared a packet on "Operation Abolition," including the NCC statement and publication, which will shortly be available from the Council's office at \$1 each. This packet will include a number of the reports and statements made about the film, both favorable and unfavorable, and will list additional materials for those who desire to secure them.

## Do You Need Speakers?

The Foreign Policy Association has published an excellent *Guide to Sources of Speakers*. This guide lists the offices of all foreign governments to which one may turn for speakers, organizations of all kinds providing speakers on a statewide basis, and organizations providing speakers on a national basis.

Brief notes accompany most listings, describing the character of the organization and the conditions under which speakers are provided. The *Guide* sells for \$1.00 and may be ordered from the Foreign Policy Association, 345 East 46th Street, New York 17, N. Y. It could be very useful to synodical and state bodies and other groups which have occasional need for speakers on international affairs.

## RESOLUTION

Adopted by the General Board of the  
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.  
Syracuse, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1961

The General Board of the National Council of Churches, having viewed the film "Operation Abolition"

1) deplores the provocation that led to the disturbances, as well as the disturbances themselves, which occurred in connection with the hearings;

2) reaffirms its position to and repugnance for Communism and the activities of Communist sympathizers and warns Christian Americans that in standing for their convictions, they not be confused by Communists or chauvinists;

3) expresses the conviction that the film does not contribute to a realistic understanding of Communism and its dangers in the U. S.;

4) adopts the following statement:

BECAUSE there are many serious questions being raised by responsible citizens and organizations concerning the sale and showing of the film "Operation Abolition," and

BECAUSE of the effect of charges in the film reflecting adversely upon the reputations of students and upon their efforts to exercise active political concern in the future, and

BECAUSE of the pressures upon many congregations, ministers, and church groups to show this film, and

BECAUSE of the effect upon freedom of expression which this film produces by its implication that criticism of the House Committee on Un-American Activities must be Communist-inspired, and

BECAUSE of Christian concern for truth and justice in all acts of all agencies of government,

The General Board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. expresses its deep concern about problems raised in the conflicting reports regarding the film "Operation Abolition."

1. It notes that evidence in the film and statements and articles by responsible newspapers, journals, and journalists and by

various eyewitnesses point to the need for answers to such questions as the following:

a. What evidence, admissible in a court of law, links the Communists and alleged Communists named in the film with the students leading or participating in the demonstration?

b. What were the actual incidents of violence, and who were responsible for them?

c. What is the degree of responsibility of the students, police, Communists, and the House Committee on Un-American Activities in causing the regrettable incidents recorded in the film?

d. What is the legal status of the film subpoenaed by the Committee and now being sold by a private profit-making firm?

e. Are there errors of fact and interpretation included in the film as presently distributed?

f. What is the responsibility of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and of the House of Representatives itself, in respect to this film and the charges made in it against students and other citizens?

2. Until objective and convincing answers to these questions are provided by proper authorities not parties at interest in the film and not participants in the events recorded in it, the General Board advises its constituent communions and their members **NOT TO EXHIBIT THE FILM "OPERATION ABOLITION" IN CHURCHES UNLESS A FULL AND FAIR PRESENTATION OF SUCH FACTS AS ARE AVAILABLE RELEVANT TO THESE QUESTIONS IS PROVIDED BEFOREHAND AND REFERENCE MADE TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL'S STATEMENT.**

3. The General Board authorizes the publication and circulation of "Some Facts and Some Comments" on the responsibility of their respective authors as information helpful in a discussion of the implication of the film "Operation Abolition."



## SOCIAL ACTION CALENDAR

June 19-23—Southern Christian Social Action Institute, Blue Ridge Assembly Grounds, Black Mountain, North Carolina.

June 19-23—West Coast Christian Social Action Institute, White Memorial Conference Center, Mill Valley, California.

June 19-July 1—Race Relations Institute, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee.

June 20-August 9—Africa Study Tour. Information from Rev. Herman F. Reisinger, 289 Park Avenue South, New York 10, New York.

July 10-14—Midwestern Christian Social Action Institute, Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

July 24-28—Eastern Christian Social Action Institute, Congregational Christian Conference Center, Framingham, Massachusetts.

July 24-August 13—Caribbean Study Tour. Information from Rev. F. Nelsen Schlegel, 22969 West 25th St., Cleveland 13, Ohio.

August 11-15—Youth Christian Social Action Institute, Midwest Location to be announced.

September 3—Labor Sunday.

September 12-14—Council for Christian Social Action, Washington, D. C.

October 17-19—World Order—United Nations Seminar, New York, N. Y.

October 23-27—National Study Conference on the Churches and Social Welfare, Cleveland, Ohio

## Synod Workshop Features Teen-Age Participation

South Illinois Synod held its sixth annual social action workshop on January 18, at Christ Evangelical and Reformed Church in Belleville. Total attendance was well over 250, with three sessions, one of which was primarily for teenagers. The latter dealt with the theme, "Love, Sex and Marriage," and was very ably led by Dr. Gerson Engelmann, sociologist and pastor of Faith United Protestant Church in Park Forest, Illinois.

The other sessions dealt with tax problems of particular concern to Illinois citizens and to Christian Responsibility for Freedom.

The synod committee on Christian Social Action, which has sponsored such an all day workshop annually since 1956, thinks this kind of forum has stimulated an increasing concern for social problems in churches all over the area. (Themes of current significance are always chosen. The discussions at the workshop have widening influence as they get talked about in many churches and communities.)

Chairman of the South Illinois synod committee is the Reverend Kurt Simon, pastor of the E&R Church in Addieville.

## Council Statements Now Available In Uniform Format

Copies of all Statements adopted by the Council for Christian Social Action since the formation of the United Church of Christ in June, 1957 are now available upon request from either office of the Council. In all instances but one the cost is five cents per set.

Most of these have previously appeared in *CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY* and are grouped as originally published except for three dealing with industrial relations. The statements as now reprinted are:

- A. Reprint from *CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY*, February, 1958 ..... 5 cents
  - The Churches and Race Relations—January 31, 1958
  - The Crisis in Education—January 31, 1958
  - Corruption in Labor and Management—October 30, 1957
  - Immigration—January 31, 1958
  - United States Foreign Economic Policy—January 31, 1958
  - Freedom, Security, and Atomic Weapons—January 31, 1958
- B. Four Policy Statements, 1958-1959 ..... 5 cents
  - National Responsibility and Areas of Need, June 12, 1958
  - United States China Policy, February 6, 1959
  - The Palestinian Refugees, February 7, 1959
  - Our Christian Concern for Public Education, February 5, 1959
- C. Three Statements on Labor Management Relations ..... 5 cents
  - Ethical Issue in Industrial Relations of Concern to Christians  
January 31, 1960
  - Corruption in Labor and Management, October 30, 1957
  - Anti-Union Shop Legislation ("Right to Work" Laws),  
September 10, 1958
- D. Supplement to *CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY*, March, 1960 ..... 5 cents
  - Christians and the Arms Race, January 31, 1960
  - Responsible Parenthood and the Population Problem,  
January 30, 1960
  - Qualifications for the Office of President of the United States,  
January 31, 1960
- E. Supplement to *CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY*, September, 1960 ..... 2 cents
  - Medical Care for the Aging—June 15, 1960
  - Statement in Support of the Students Protesting Segregation,  
June 15, 1960
- F. Supplement to *CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY*, March 1961 ..... 5 cents
  - The Churches and Migratory Agricultural Labor,  
January 27, 1961
  - National Responsibility and International Relations,  
January 27, 1961
  - A Call to Renewed Responsibility for Racial and Cultural  
Relations, January 28, 1961

For convenience, they may be ordered as Statements "A," "B," etc.

In addition, *The Call to Christian Action in Society*, adopted by the General Synod of the United Church of Christ, may be secured at 5 cents

The entire set may be ordered for 25 cents.

## Miss Hampton Joins Missions Council

Miss Dorothy E. Hampton, who served as Race Relations Consultant in North Carolina and Virginia from 1957 to 1960 under the sponsorship of the Council for Christian Social Action and the Board of Home Missions, on January 1st began a new career as a staff member of the Missions Council.

Her position is that of Resource and Information Secretary in Missionary Education. She is located at the office at 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts. She has the good wishes of the Council of Christian Social Action and all who have worked with her in the interest of racial understanding.



## Visiting The UN?

Individuals, or groups, planning to visit the United Nations should get in touch, at the earliest possible date with the CCSA's official United Nations Observer, Mrs. William A. Gordon of 73 Nearwater Lane, Noroton, Connecticut. Her telephone number is OLiver 5-2193.

While Mrs. Gordon does not give full time to this work, she is ready to help individuals and groups in every way possible and she is thoroughly acquainted with all aspects of the United Nations.

In addition, the New York Office of the CCSA, has on hand a mimeographed document entitled, "Places to Visit in New York City." Groups planning to spend one or more days in New York should write for this document—there is no charge.

## Listen In On Sit In

*The Nashville Sit-In Story*, a 12" LP recording is available for \$3 from Folkways Records, 117 W. 46th St., New York 36, N. Y. The story of last spring's successful integration drive is told by dramatic episode, simple narration, and haunting music. Featuring Folk Singer Guy Carawan, it includes two songs—"We Shall Overcome" and "They Go Wild Over Me"—which one member of the CCSA says "alone would make it worth more than the price."

## CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

APRIL, 1961

News and Program Service of the  
Council for Christian Social Action  
of the United Church of Christ  
Ray Gibbons, Director

Huber F. Klemme, Associate Director and Editor

Sent free to pastors and social action committee chairmen. Group subscriptions, 10 or more to one address, 50 cents each. Individual subscriptions, \$2 per year with SOCIAL ACTION upon request.

General communications and orders from Evangelical and Reformed churches should be addressed to the Editor, Council for Christian Social Action, 2969 W. 25th St., Cleveland 13, Ohio.

Congregational Christians should order from Council for Christian Social Action, 289 Park Avenue South, New York 10, N. Y.

The Council for Christian Social Action unites the work of the Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Commission on Christian Social Action of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

## New Study Materials Available

The Council for Christian Social Action announces new resources dealing with special problems in the field of race relations.

1. A study document on *Marriage Across Racial Lines* may be ordered at five cents each.

Designated as "a discussion paper in process of development," the Council approved its printing and distribution to all requesting it in order to assist pastors and counsellors dealing with the question and to encourage responsible thinking and discussion upon a subject that is of considerable interest and importance especially to Christians. Authorities estimate that some seventy to eighty per cent of "Negroes" in the United States are of mixed racial ancestry—mostly Caucasian plus Negroid and frequently Indian (or Mongoloid plus Negroid). A large percentage of such mixtures occurred outside of legal sanctions, particularly during slavery days.

This is not a policy statement by the

Council but it does, in its brief compass, seek to clarify some of the biblical and theological as well as the scientific issues involved.

A study packet of valuable supplementary materials may also be purchased for \$1 each. The latter contains five copies of the above statement.

2. A study packet with wide selection of resources on *Christian-Jewish Relations* is available for \$1. This material has been assembled in order to encourage much greater concern and purposeful study and activity in this highly significant area of interpersonal and intergroup relations on the part of local congregations, synods, and conferences.

3. *Helping Churches Face Racial Change* is a timely and practical paper written by Galen R. Weaver, one of the two Secretaries for Racial and Cultural Relations of the Council for Christian Social Action. Single copy, ten cents. Special price for one hundred or more.

## Program Resources on "The High Cost of Health"

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)

program in your state. A welfare worker might be invited to a gathering of one or more adult circles to discuss the need for medical aid programs for the aging in your county.

In this same connection it might be possible to invite to your meeting someone who attended the 1961 White House Conference on Aging. An article by Margaret Frakes in the *Christian Century* for January 25 could be used to arouse interest. It tells about positions taken at the White House Conference by former Eisenhower administration leaders: Marion B. Folsom (one-time secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare) and Arthur Larson (one-time under-secretary of Labor). One of the issues which received much attention at the Conference was medical aid to the aging and its place in the Old Age and Survivors Insurance program. Both Folsom and Larson who formerly opposed now favor the OASDI plan.

More recently (February 22) the General Board of the National Council

of Churches declared itself in favor of legislation which would provide medical aid to the aging under OASDI.

In considering Dr. Gibbons' treatment of the British national health service study groups should also examine the information provided by *Look* magazine for December 20, 1960. This is a report by *Look's* European editor, who undertook an extensive survey of the British plan because of criticism from opponents of compulsory health insurance.

Another aspect of this theme, not discussed by any of the articles in SOCIAL ACTION, has to do with the cost and the standards of modern nursing homes. Are you satisfied with the nursing homes in your area? Are they adequate? The Senate's Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged, Senator Pat McNamara, chairman, has made a study on "The Condition of American Nursing Homes." On request your senator will get a copy of it for you. When you see how many nursing homes studied were declared "not acceptable" you will want to work for more facilities and higher standards.